

on June 15, 2011, and my deepest sympathies go out to her family and friends.

In August, I rose to pay tribute to the late Paul Duncan, the Director of Outreach for the Long Beach Community Business Network, who spent the last ten years of his life working tirelessly to connect local Long Beach employers to business organizations from Hawaii to Washington, DC. An advocate for economic empowerment of LGBT business owners and entrepreneurs, Mr. Duncan was known around the nation and beloved by the Long Beach community. He died suddenly of an aneurism at a national conference where he was one of 70 affiliate leaders working for job creation and expanded economic opportunity for LGBT owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, progress is made through the efforts of courageous leaders like Jean and Paul; people who actively engage their communities and face adversity to ensure that the rights of all are clearly defined and protected.

People like the legendary Bayard Rustin, a leading strategist of the Civil Rights Movement and trusted advisor to Martin Luther King, Jr. An early proponent of nonviolent resistance, Rustin organized the 1947 Journey of Reconciliation which inspired the Freedom Rides of the 1960s and helped Dr. King organize the Southern Christian Leadership Conference which became the nerve center of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Bayard Rustin was a driving force behind the iconic 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom which brought national attention to the civil rights struggle and spurred the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. He arranged the transportation, trained the marshals and oversaw all of the logistical details involved in putting on one of the most effective political demonstrations in world history and setting the stage for Dr. King's timeless "I Have a Dream" speech.

Later, Bayard Rustin worked to integrate all-white unions and became heavily involved in international humanitarian development and peacemaking. Openly gay, he became a public advocate for LGBT causes in the 1970s and passed away on a mission to Haiti in 1987.

Many great writers of the Harlem Renaissance, such as Countée Cullen and Bruce Nugent, were homosexual, and the contributions they made to literature are forever ingrained in the cultural fabric of America. Langston Hughes was probably the most well known, though he was an intensely private man and never spoke openly on the subject.

Billy Strayhorn was a musician and gifted composer whose 30 year collaboration with Duke Ellington resulted in some of the most indispensable music of the jazz age. Openly gay, Strayhorn participated in many civil rights causes and arranged a musical score for his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in 1963.

James Baldwin is one of the great literary figures of the 20th century. The writings of this African-American explored issues of race and class and gender. He rose to prominence with the civil rights movement and worked to bridge the gap between the competing approaches of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, both of whom were his personal friends. His work and life had a profound impact on countless equality activists and writers.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge the achievements of just a few of the count-

less number of Americans who defied the odds and overcame prejudice and discrimination, and intolerance and worked to make everyone including America be a more welcoming place succeeding generations of LGBT community members.

65TH ANNUAL NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

HON. KATHLEEN C. HOCHUL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Ms. HOCHUL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a significant event that is occurring in Western New York next week.

Our nation's rich culture, history, art, and architecture are national treasures and help remind us everyday who we are and where we came from.

This year, the National Trust for Historic Preservation is holding its 65th annual National Preservation Conference in Buffalo, NY and will feature historic and cultural sites throughout the Buffalo Niagara region.

Hundreds of Western New Yorkers have worked for the past four years to plan this conference, researching sites from Medina to Chautauqua and everywhere in between, planning events, and creating art exhibitions.

These sites include such regional attractions as the Guaranty Building, Darwin D. Martin House Complex, Roycroft Campus, and the Erie Canal locks in Lockport, among many others. I am proud to show off Western New York's historical icons to the rest of the country.

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our vibrant culture and history and I commend all of those who are putting in time and effort to make this happen.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF DICK'S 5 & 10 OF BRANSON, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the 7th District of Missouri's most valuable landmarks, Dick's 5 & 10, located in Branson, Missouri.

This summer they celebrated their 50th year of business, or as they say, of fun.

Ever since Dick Hartley started the store fifty years ago, Dick's 5 & 10 has been an important part of the Branson community. And for those who are not from the Ozarks, Dick's 5 & 10 is a must see for all visitors to Branson—I know it is for my family every time we're in the area.

Whether it's toys, games, gifts, souvenirs, novelties, or nostalgia; whether customers are 5 years old or 105 years old; whether customers know what they want or are just looking; at Dick's 5 & 10 there is something for everyone.

But more than the items on their shelves, the friendly smiles of the staff and the outstanding service is what keeps customers coming back for more.

The family that runs Dick's, the Hartley family, has been active in the Branson Community since Dick's first opened its doors in 1961. The Hartleys have been involved in many organizations, including the Downtown Branson Mainstreet Association, the Kiwanis Club, other civic organizations, and are very active in Branson politics.

Son Steve and daughter Melissa, along with Melissa's husband Dave Montgomery, continue the family tradition of helping guide the Downtown Merchants Association, as well as making sure that all of the customers at Dick's have that special experience of a true American tradition.

Dick's 5 & 10 is an important part of the Branson community and I know we can look forward to 50 more years of success, fun, and the community involvement that Dick's 5 & 10 is known for.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 7TH ANNUAL MAYOR'S DINNER & CHARITY AUCTION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 14, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Simi Valley, California's 7th Annual Mayor's Dinner & Charity Auction, hosted by my good friend Mayor Robert O. "Bob" Huber and the Simi Valley Community Foundation.

The dinner will benefit the Alliance for Human Services and Humanitarian Awards will be bestowed upon Fred Bauermeister, Jill Haney, Ann Lindeen and Sue Martinez.

Bob was elected mayor last November, during a time when economic troubles facing the city required strong leadership. He has managed to navigate the City Council through tough and sometimes contentious decisions to keep the city's finances stable and the community safe and functioning well. As a former mayor of Simi Valley who was also elected at a turning point in the city's history, I greatly emphasize with the challenges he faces.

It is fitting that Bob host a gathering of such celebrated community leaders. Throughout the years, Bob has served on a number of governmental and community boards and commissions in the city, beginning at age 27, when he served his first term as president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce.

Honoree Fred Bauermeister is also a longtime friend. A professional photographer, Fred is best known for his 40-year advocacy of the Free Clinic of Simi Valley. Fred has been a part of the clinic since it opened its doors in 1971 and Fred was still a college student. He was named executive director that year and has guided the clinic through many challenging times. Last year, Fred was elected to the board of directors of the National Association of Free Clinics.

Jill Haney serves on the board of directors of the United Way, is past president of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, treasurer for the Simi Valley Education Foundation and is immediate past president of the Rotary Club of Simi Sunset. Under her management and leadership, Santa Barbara Bank & Trust was named Business of the Year in 2007. If there is a charitable event in Simi Valley, no doubt you will find Jill volunteering at it.